

STATE OF MARYLAND
BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF PSYCHOLOGISTS
PROCEDURES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND EVALUATION OF EXAMINATIONS

General Statement:

The major concerns of the Board are to protect the public by ensuring that licensed psychologists in Maryland possess sufficient knowledge basic to the practice of psychology and sufficient knowledge of the laws and standards governing the practice of psychology in Maryland in order to provide competent delivery of services. The Board ensures that all eligible candidates are allowed the opportunity to demonstrate that knowledge through examination.

1. The overall purpose of the examination is to provide important data in the multi-step process of ensuring that persons licensed in Maryland possess the required knowledge.
2. The specific purpose of the examination is to evaluate the candidate's knowledge.

Composition of the Examination:

The examination consists of two parts:

1. A computer-based Examination for Professional Practice in Psychology (EPPP), developed and sponsored by the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB) and administered and scored through the Professional Examination Service (PES). This examination is administered on a national basis and is used to evaluate the candidate's knowledge basic to the practice of psychology.
2. A multiple choice examination, "Maryland examination", developed to evaluate the candidate's knowledge and understanding of the Maryland laws and regulations governing the practice of psychology tests applicants on the Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct; and other regulations and laws pertaining to the practice of psychology.

Rationale:

The use of the dual structure examination permits qualified candidates to demonstrate their knowledge basic to the practice of psychology and of those matters relevant to the competent delivery of services in Maryland.

1. The use of the national examination allows for limited practice reciprocity for individuals licensed to practice psychology in another state and applying to become licensed as psychologists in Maryland. It also makes the standards for the practice of psychology across the United States more consistent.
2. The use of the Maryland examination protects the public in that licensed psychologists in Maryland will have demonstrated knowledge of those laws and regulations that govern the practice of

psychology in Maryland.

Examination Procedures:

1. Candidates are informed of the composition of the examinations, the material covered on the Maryland examination, and the date, time and place of the examination by mail. Candidates will be provided with a copy of the “Maryland Laws and Board Regulations Pertaining to the Practice of Psychology” and will be tested on this material.
2. The Maryland examination and answers, prepared by designated Board members, are reviewed, revised as necessary, and approved by the Board. The examination is secured in the office of the Board until the time of administration.
3. For information regarding taking the computer-based EPPP, refer to the enclosed, “Questions and Answers about Computer-Based Administration of the Examination for Professional Practice in Psychology (EPPP) - Information for Candidates.”

Scoring Criteria are as Follows:

The Board requires applicants for licensure to receive passing scores of at least:

1. A scaled score of 500 on the Examination for Professional Practice in Psychology (EPPP) prepared and scored by the Professional Examination Service and returned to the Board; and
2. 75 percent on the Maryland Examination prepared and scored by the Board.

Record Keeping:

Following pass/fail decisions, the names are identified from the master list and all candidates are notified. Board minutes record the names of all candidates who have successfully passed both the national and Maryland examinations. The Maryland Psychological Association is informed of the list of successful candidates for publication in their newsletter. A list is also sent to the Baltimore Sun and Afro American newspapers for publication. The individual candidate’s Maryland examination paper is filed in his/her application and license file. The national and Maryland examination data are kept in the Board office.

In order to protect the integrity of the tests and to ensure that no candidate be given more information than any other candidate, no question sheets are to be made available to any candidate prior to or following the examination.